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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

| 1   | 1. A method comprising:  |  |  |  |  |
|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2   | determining a first specification for a first set of storage regions, wherein                      |  |  |  |  |
| 3   | the first set of storage regions is needed to perform an operation on a logical volume,            |  |  |  |  |
| 4   | and  |  |  |  |  |
| 5   | the first set of storage regions satisfies an intent of the logical volume;                        |  |  |  |  |
| 6   | searching a plurality of existing storage regions for a corresponding storage region for each      |  |  |  |  |
| 7   | storage region in the first set of storage regions; and  |  |  |  |  |
| 8   | if no existing storage region is found corresponding to a first storage region in the first set of |  |  |  |  |
| 9   | storage regions,   |  |  |  |  |
| .10 | determining a second specification for a second set of storage regions.                            |  |  |  |  |
| 1   | 2. The method of claim 1 wherein   |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | the second set of storage regions comprises at least the first storage region.                     |  |  |  |  |
| 1   | 3. The method of claim 2 wherein   |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | the second specification for the second set of storage regions comprises                           |  |  |  |  |
| 3   | an attribute of the first storage region, and  |  |  |  |  |
| 4   | a connection between the first storage region and a storage object in the logical                  |  |  |  |  |
| 5   | volume.  |  |  |  |  |
| 1   | 4. The method of claim 3 further comprising:   |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | using the second specification to acquire a third set of storage regions.                          |  |  |  |  |
| 1   | 5. The method of claim 4 wherein   |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | the third set of storage regions is a subset of the second set of storage regions.                 |  |  |  |  |
| 1   | 6. The method of claim 3 further comprising:   |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | acquiring the second set of storage regions; and   |  |  |  |  |
| 3   | performing the operation on the logical volume using the second set of storage regions.            |  |  |  |  |
| 1   | 7. The method of claim 3 wherein   |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | the second set of storage regions satisfies the intent of the logical volume                       |  |  |  |  |

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1 8. The method of claim 3 further comprising: 2 determining a third specification, wherein 3 the determining the third specification comprises specifying an existing storage region of the 4 plurality of existing storage regions to reserve for performing the operation. 1 9. The method of claim 3 wherein 2 the second set of storage regions excludes a second storage region for which an existing 3 storage region of the plurality of existing storage regions is found. 1 10. The method of claim 3 wherein 2 the operation comprises increasing a size of the logical volume. 1 11. The method of claim 3 wherein 2 the operation comprises evacuating data from the logical volume. 1 12. The method of claim 3 wherein 2 the operation comprises relocating data of the logical volume. 1 13. A system comprising: 2 first determining means for determining a first specification for a first set of storage regions, 3 wherein 4 the first set of storage regions is needed to perform an operation on a logical volume, 5 and 6 the first set of storage regions satisfies an intent of the logical volume; 7 searching means for searching a plurality of existing storage regions for a corresponding 8 storage region for each storage region in the first set of storage regions; and 9 second determining means for determining a second specification for a second set of storage 10 regions if no existing storage region is found corresponding to a first storage region in 11 the first set of storage regions. 1 14. The system of claim 13 further comprising: 2 using means for using the second specification to acquire a third set of storage regions. 1 15. The system of claim 14 wherein

the third set of storage regions is a subset of the second set of storage regions.

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| 16. The system of claim 14 further comprising:  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| acquiring means for acquiring the second set of storage regions; and                        |  |  |  |
| performing means for performing the operation on the logical volume using the second set of |  |  |  |
| storage regions.  |  |  |  |
| 17. The system of claim 14 further comprising:  |  |  |  |
| third determining means for determining a third specification, wherein                      |  |  |  |
| the determining the third specification comprises specifying an existing storage region     |  |  |  |
| of the plurality of existing storage regions to reserve for performing the                  |  |  |  |
| operation.  |  |  |  |
| 18. A system comprising:  |  |  |  |
| a first determining module configured to determine a first specification for a first set of |  |  |  |
| storage regions, wherein  |  |  |  |
| the first set of storage regions is needed to perform an operation on a logical volume,     |  |  |  |
| and   |  |  |  |
| the first set of storage regions satisfies an intent of the logical volume;                 |  |  |  |
| a searching module configured to search a plurality of existing storage regions for a       |  |  |  |
| corresponding storage region for each storage region in the first set of storage regions;   |  |  |  |
| and   |  |  |  |
| a second determining module configured to determine a second specification for a second set |  |  |  |
| of storage regions if no existing storage region is found corresponding to a first          |  |  |  |
| storage region in the first set of storage regions.   |  |  |  |
| 19. The system of claim 18 wherein  |  |  |  |
| the second set of storage regions comprises at least the first storage region.              |  |  |  |
| 20. The system of claim 19 wherein  |  |  |  |
| the second specification for the second set of storage regions comprises                    |  |  |  |
| an attribute of the first storage region, and   |  |  |  |
| a connection between the first storage region and a storage object in the logical           |  |  |  |
| volume.   |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |

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| 1  | 21. The system of claim 20 further comprising:  |  |  |  |
|----|---|--|--|--|
| 2  | an acquiring module configured to acquire the second set of storage regions; and                |  |  |  |
| 3  | a performing module configured to perform the operation on the logical volume using the         |  |  |  |
| 4  | second set of storage regions.  |  |  |  |
| 1  | 22. The system of claim 20 further comprising:  |  |  |  |
| 2  | a third determining module configured to determine a third specification, wherein               |  |  |  |
| 3  | the determining the third specification comprises specifying an existing storage regio          |  |  |  |
| 4  | of the plurality of existing storage regions to reserve for performing the                      |  |  |  |
| 5  | operation.  |  |  |  |
| 1  | 23. A computer-readable medium comprising:  |  |  |  |
| 2  | first determining instructions configured to determine a first specification for a first set of |  |  |  |
| 3  | storage regions, wherein  |  |  |  |
| 4  | the first set of storage regions is needed to perform an operation on a logical volume,         |  |  |  |
| 5  | and   |  |  |  |
| 6  | the first set of storage regions satisfies an intent of the logical volume;                     |  |  |  |
| 7  | searching instructions configured to search a plurality of existing storage regions for a       |  |  |  |
| 8  | corresponding storage region for each storage region in the first set of storage regions        |  |  |  |
| 9  | and   |  |  |  |
| 10 | second determining instructions configured to determine a second specification for a second     |  |  |  |
| 11 | set of storage regions if no existing storage region is found corresponding to a first          |  |  |  |
| 12 | storage region in the first set of storage regions.   |  |  |  |
| 1  | 24. The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein  |  |  |  |
| 2  | the second set of storage regions comprises at least the first storage region.                  |  |  |  |
| 1  | 25. The computer-readable medium of claim 24 wherein  |  |  |  |
| 2  | the second specification for the second set of storage regions comprises                        |  |  |  |
| 3  | an attribute of the first storage region, and   |  |  |  |
| 4  | a connection between the first storage region and a storage object in the logical               |  |  |  |
| 5  | volume.   |  |  |  |
|    |   |  |  |  |

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| 1 | 26.   | The computer-readable medium of claim 25 further comprising:               |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| 2 | acquiring instructions configured to acquire the second set of storage regions; and         |  |  |  |
| 3 | performing instructions configured to perform the operation on the logical volume using the |  |  |  |
| 4 | second set of storage regions.  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 27.   | The computer-readable medium of claim 25 further comprising:               |  |  |
| 2 | third determining instructions configured to determine a third specification, wherein       |  |  |  |
| 3 | the determining the third specification comprises specifying an existing storage region     |  |  |  |
| 4 |   | of the plurality of existing storage regions to reserve for performing the |  |  |
| 5 |   | operation.   |  |  |
| 1 | 28.   | A computer system comprising:  |  |  |
| 2 | a processor; and  |  |  |  |
| 3 | the computer-readable medium of claim 25.   |  |  |  |